

Wednesday Weekly

(A weekly update on agriculture education from the Department of Public Instruction)

**The most recent 8 issues of Wednesday Weekly are available online at:
<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dlsis/let/agww.html>**

May 17, 2006

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Honorary American Degree, VIP Award and Distinguished Service Citation

Just a reminder that nominations for the Honorary American Degree, VIP Award and Distinguished Service Citation are due to DPI by **May 30th**! I have attached the applications for each of these programs to this e-mail.

Please visit <http://www.ffa.org/programs/honor/index.html> for more information, and feel free to contact me with any questions!

Any Ag Ed Teachers teaching an Agribusiness Curriculum

The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions along the Governor's Council on Financial Literacy has just announced grant funding for the financial literacy standards. The grant titled "Financial Literacy Innovation Awards" will be geared towards teachers implementing the financial literacy standards, to improve financial literacy among youth.

If any ag ed teachers are using the Agribusiness curriculum from CAERT, there might be a chance to work with them to align the curriculum to the standards.

<http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/f9550-l.doc>

FFA Proficiency Award Comment

FFA Advisors who have students filling out state proficiency awards try this method. There is a tool that you can use to add the zero's in all the spaces that your students do not have an inventory or money amount. You must do this for each page and it will only work for that application. The steps are as followed:

1. Go to tools
2. Choose options
3. Under window options, click the box zero values, then click ok

CowParade, the world's largest public art event, Mooves to Wisconsin This Summer

The schedule is set, the Cowstodians (our traveling caretakers) are hired, public relations pieces are designed. All we need is YOU to be on-site FFA representatives, talking to Fair and Dairy Breakfast attendees about your great FFA experiences. There will also be CowParade memorabilia for your Chapter to sell. As with the Calf Raffle, if a Chapter sells \$100 or more worth of available items, 20% of the sales will be returned to that Chapter. Some FFA advisors already expressed interest; others still can. To confirm your place in the Tour, contact our volunteer coordinator Ashley.Huibregtse@datcp.state.wi.us as soon as possible.

Wisconsin State Fair Camp

Mission Statement

Wisconsin State Fair Camp's mission is to educate urban youth about the importance of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Being held during the fair allows campers to see the diverse aspects of Wisconsin agriculture whether it be food or fiber products, animals or renewable energy. Another important objective of this program is to teach leadership and volunteerism to our current youth leadership programs such as Scouts, 4-H and FFA. A third objective is to educate urban youth about the educational opportunities at the Wisconsin State Fair and the purpose of the Fair as a social, educational and economic venue for all ages. The State Fair Camp is looking for **16 FFA members** to participate as counselors for the two days of camp. August 4th and 5th will be the days of the camp. Potential counselors might include: experienced FFA officers, State Officer Candidates, Agricultural Education SAE candidates and FFA members that have an interest in helping teach youth about agriculture. **If interested please email or call Jeff Hicken by May 31st.**

Future of Farming Announces Forum Schedule

The Future of Farming and Rural Life in Wisconsin, project of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, is pleased to announce its 2006 Forum Schedule. Attached is the forum schedule.

The forums are free and open to all (participants pay for their lunch) and the broadest possible range of perspectives is invited to inform as well as be informed by the project.

Go to this website to learn more about this event. <http://www.wisconsinacademy.org/idea/index.html>
We are looking for FFA Advisors and FFA members to attend these forums and showcase our FFA Entrepreneurships. FFA Advisors located near one of the forums, if you have an FFA member that would like to showcase their SAE program please let Jeff Hicken know.

Attached you will find the first flyer of the six forums, which will be held Tuesday, May 23 at UW-Stout. Please look it over and go to the website to register.

Indiana University's: Center for the Study of Global Change

International Agricultural Education Summer Institute - July 9-16, 2006

The Center for the Study of Global Change at Indiana University and International Studies Programs at the Universities of Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, with the support of Agriculture Education Specialists from Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, are pleased to announce a residential, one-week Summer Institute on International Agriculture and Global Food Security.

The objective of this program is to introduce critical international agriculture issues to high school agriculture teachers and university Agricultural Education majors. Information is provided on a wide range of global agricultural issues, including best practices for incorporating them into the curriculum, through lectures, panels, small group discussions, videoconferences with presenters around the world, and cultural events. The program addresses such major themes as the state of the world's water supply, the role of food in international security, and the relationship between agriculture and alternative energies, among others. Dr. James Graham, Professor of Agricultural Education at University of Wisconsin-River Falls, will be the Faculty Leader of IAESI 2006.

The cost of the Institute is \$400, which includes room, board, and program fees. Partial scholarships may be forthcoming - please check the website. Every institute participant will receive certification for Professional Growth Points. Optional graduate credit is available to all participants at "in-state" cost per credit hour - participants may enroll (at the institute) in Education W505 "International Agricultural Education" (1-3 graduate credits).

Visit <http://www.indiana.edu/~global/iaeinstitute.php> for online application and further details.

Web site for Wisconsin Ag Ed vacancies: <http://www.wisconsin.gov/state/app/employment>

WPA Looking for Volunteers at WI State Fair

The Wisconsin Pork Association is looking for FFA chapters or other service organizations to participate in a shift at the Wisconsin State Fair Pork Schoppe. The Pork Schoppe serves butterfly pork chop sandwiches, pork burgers, and a Pork Chop on a Stick to thousands of state fair attendees daily. The Pork Schoppe runs two shifts daily - AM shift 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., and PM shift 3:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Each volunteer receives complimentary admission to the Wisconsin State Fair and paid parking. Volunteers will also receive a free hat, t-shirt, sandwich, and soda. Lastly, your group or organization will also receive \$250 for a full shift. If you share a shift with another group, you will receive a prorated amount based on your participation. 15 people are needed for a full shift. Volunteers wait on customers, run cash registers, make sandwiches, and participate in a number of other related activities.

Currently, the following shifts are available: Sun., Aug. 6, AM shift; Tues., Aug. 8, PM shift; Weds. Aug. 9, PM shift; and Sun., Aug. 13, AM shift. Please contact Wisconsin Pork Association at wppa@wppa.org if you would be interested.

Best Food Nation Web Site

Take a look at this great new web site link: www.BestFoodNation.com.

The site offers the facts about the U.S. food supply, which is among the safest, most affordable and most abundant in the world. It's a wonderful site to respond to those "myths" about food production.

The food, hospitality and agriculture industries have joined together to tell the story of the positive impact made by each participant along the food chain and to separate fact from fiction. The American Farm Bureau Federation and 17 other agriculture and food industry groups joined together to form the Best Food Nation Coalition, which developed the new site.

That's all for this week from your DPI Staff:

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